



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Community Meeting Thursday, April 10, 2003

The Community meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, April 10, 2003, at 6:30 p.m., at Wayne County Community College, 5901 Conner, Detroit, MI 48213.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Megan P. Norris
Willie E. Hampton
Erminia Ramirez
Arthur Blackwell, II
Edgar L. Vann, Jr. **(ABS)**

Department Personnel Present

AC Walter Shoulders
AC Timothy Black
DC Ronald Haddad
Cmdr. Moreland
Insp. McClure
Insp. Napoleon
Lt. R. Lawrence
Sgt. Thomas
Sgt. D. Jackson
PO Reggie Crawford
PO Jones
PO Ivette Reed
PO Burt
PO V. Miller
PO R. Griffin
3rd DC Tara Dunlap
Dir. Elsie Scott

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Exec. Director
Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator
Michelle McDonald, Community Affairs Coordinator
E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes, Personnel Director **(ABS)**

OTHERS PRESENT

Sandra Cole
Robert Cole
Art Trombley
Richard Jones
Mr. Craccioholio
Ms. Walters
Tony
Mary Unger
Rev. Wilson
Elecia Winston
Lee Braxton
Zana Dunnigan
T. Refenes

RECORDERS

Jerome Adams

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Norris called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to approve the minutes of Thursday, April 3, 2003.

SECOND: Commissioner Hampton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

**RESOLUTION HONORING
MR. EDDIE BOOKER**

WHEREAS Mr. Eddie Booker has been a lifelong resident in the City of Detroit;
and

WHEREAS Mr. Booker has been actively involved in the community, including
serving as President of the Image Block Club for the past 10 years,
President of the Fifth Precinct Community Relations Executive Board,
and the Fifth Precinct's Community Relations Group President for the
past 4 years; and

WHEREAS Mr. Booker is President of the Fifth and Ninth Precincts' Clean Team.
He works with residents providing guidance and serving the
community; and

WHEREAS Mr. Booker contributes his time and devotes countless hours
participating in the Anti-Arson Campaign, Rape Patrol, National Night
Out, and Motor City Makeover; and

WHEREAS Mr. Booker has been instrumental in coordinating annual luncheons,
dinners and picnics, fostering a positive relationship between the
community and the Detroit Police Department,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the
citizens of the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department,
acknowledges the generous spirit of Mr. Booker. His unselfishness
and dedication to improving the quality of life for all citizens in his
community and throughout the City of Detroit merits our highest
regards.

We thank and congratulate you, Mr. Eddie Booker.

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Chairperson

/s/Willie Hampton
Vice Chairperson

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Commissioner

/s/Edgar L. Vann, Jr.
Commissioner

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Commissioner

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

APRIL 10, 2003

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to adopt the resolution for.

SECOND: Commissioner Hampton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

AC Walter Shoulders presented Mr. Booker with a Spirit of Detroit Award on behalf of City Council. AC Shoulders also presented Mr. Booker with the Detroit Police Department Recognition Award given by Chief Jerry A. Oliver, Sr.

Mr. Booker thanked everyone for his awards.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
MR. YEAGER SHEKERDEMIAN**

WHEREAS Mr. Yeager Shekerdeman is an employee of Daimler Chrysler transportation; and

WHEREAS Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian has been a driver for Daimler Chrysler since 1995; and

WHEREAS Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian is a resident of Michigan; and

WHEREAS On Friday, April 4, 2003, Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian heard an Amber Alert and while driving, he recognized the stolen vehicle. Mr. Shekerdemian and the Daimler Chrysler security person detained the suspect Rekyia Dandy until the Detroit Police arrived. That same day, the Detroit Police Armed Robbery Unit arrested Aaron Chichak, charging him with U.D.A.A. (Unlawfully Driving Away of an Automobile) and Kidnapping; and

WHEREAS Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian notified the Detroit Police, who alerted the FBI and the Michigan State Police; and

WHEREAS Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian was instrumental in the recovery of baby Rekyia Dandy, uniting the mother with the child,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, honor and bestow this resolution on Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian for the bravery and tenacity he displayed in the recovery of little Rekyia Dandy. His unselfishness and dedication to improving the quality of life for citizens of the community and throughout the City of Detroit, merits our highest regards.

We thank you and appreciate you, Mr. Yeager Shekerdemian.

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Chairperson

/s/Willie Hampton
Vice Chairperson

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Commissioner

/s/Edgar L. Vann, Jr.
Commissioner

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Commissioner

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

APRIL 10, 2003

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to adopt the resolution for Mr. Yeager Shekerdeman.

SECOND: Commissioner Hampton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. SECRETARY REPORT – EXEC. DIR. GOSS

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
<u>Weekly Count of Complaints:</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>303</u>
<u>Weekly Count of Allegations:</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>514</u>
Arrest	1	25
Demeanor	7	164
Entry	0	6
Force	1	37
Harassment	3	23
Procedure	8	161
Property	1	27
Search	1	24
Service	1	47

PENDING CASES

As of April 2, 2003, the Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) has a total of **282** pending cases, which include **161** cases with an age of 0-45 days, **25** cases with an age of 46-60 days, and **96** cases with an age of 61-90 days.

CLOSED CASES

There were **63** closed cases for March 2003.

2002

During the past week:	30	Year to Date:	285
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5. CHIEF'S REPORT

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

MIND'N OUR BUSINESS

Board of Police Commissioners

The Detroit Police Department's mission is building a safer Detroit through community partnerships. Therefore, the following enforcement actions were conducted during the week of April 2nd-8th, 2003:

ORGANIZED CRIME AND GANG DIVISION

The Conspiracy Intelligence, Gang Enforcement, North-West, and Vice Sections conducted Seven enforcement actions that resulted in (6) misdemeanor and (6) felony arrests, there were also (9) miscellaneous ordinances. These enforcement actions resulted in the confiscation of 65 grams of cocaine, 20 grams of heroin and 15,412 grams of marijuana with a total street value of \$123,648.00. \$3,058.00 in U.S. currency and 7 vehicles were confiscated from these enforcement actions.

SECOND PRECINCT

On Friday, April 4, 2003, officers of the Second Precinct while on patrol in the area of Fullerton and Roselawn, observed a SUV driving at a high rate of

speed. As a result of their investigation, the subject was arrested for "Violation of Probation." Additionally, a weapon was recovered from the vehicle.

SEVENTH PRECINCT

On Saturday, April 5, 2003, officers of the Seventh Precinct received a radio run, "RA citizen that just happened." Upon arrival at the Citgo Gas Station the officers spoke with the female complainant. She stated while pumping gas an unknown male armed with a weapon robbed her of her money and a Sprint cell phone. The officers canvassed the area for the perpetrator and found a subject matching the description sitting on a porch of a nearby residence. Upon further investigation of the subject, the officers recovered a Sprint cell phone in his pocket. The officers dialed the number that was provided by the complainant and the phone rang. The subject was arrested and conveyed to the Seventh Precinct without incident.

Chief of Police Jerry A. Oliver, Sr.

Fifth Precinct Presentation - Commander Herbert Moreland congratulated Mr. Eddie Booker on his Community Service awards. Commander Moreland introduced Sgt. Thomas and Police Officer Bacon who would handle complaints if there were citizens who wish to file. Commander Moreland gave the history and location of the Fifth Precinct. Commander Moreland addressed the problem of abandoned vehicles and abandoned homes in the area. He would like to see more tow trucks for the abandoned vehicles and demolition crews to remove the abandoned houses.

6. PRESENTATION – Homeland Security Update

AC Walter Shoulders stated that a homeland security update would be given from a different perspective, not strictly from the police department point of view but one that the police department felt would be of value to the citizens. He introduced the Director of Homeland Security, Mr. Shelby Slater.

Mr. Shelby Slater stated that his update was from a different perspective but it falls in line with the Police, Fire, EMS, and the first responding types of duties. He stated that everyone should be proud of the great job that the departments and especially what the police department has done in the area of homeland security. The success or failure of homeland security/emergency management really depends upon several different

components: collaboration, community involvement, communication, planning and exercising. In the collaboration effort, we have done an outstanding job within the city and working with public and private agencies outside of the city.

First, within the city, there are ten (10) front line departments that have come together to make up the Homeland Security Council. This is a council of individuals that would come together very rapidly if there was a significant event in the City of Detroit. They would make decisions on strategy for the city and get that information to the Mayor's office, and then disseminate it to other departments, and then to the community. It is vital to have these individuals come together because these are the subjects that are the experts within their field and they are the ones who will be making decisions daily on the operations within the city. The Homeland Security Council has functioned very efficiently. Over the last few weeks, the council has come up with a set of core protective measures for the city. These are precautionary measures or guidelines that the city should be looking at for each one of the color-coded direct levels within homeland security from green up to red. General Motors Corporation presented a workshop that assisted with this effort. The general protective measures are complete. The Homeland Security Council is reviewing these measures. Once they are reviewed and make any adjustments, then the general protective measures are sent out to each city department. The city departments are each responsible for putting in their specific measures that interface with the general measures so that every department in the city and their employees know exactly what their role will be; what the action guidelines will be for that department and for each one of the color coded threat levels.

We have put together thirty advisory levels for the community. When a level goes from one particular color to the other, for instance, from yellow to orange, we are inundated with calls from the community and the business community asking what should they do or what should our response be? Up until a few weeks ago, we had only generic answers for them. The council came together and put specific action guidelines that we could pass out to citizens and relieve their anxieties, fears and concerns. Mr. Slater speaks with DC Ronald Haddad several times a day. This communication is healthy and needed to help make the community safe and secure.

From a community involvement perspective, we are putting together a citizens core where we bring in grass roots organizations, block clubs, neighborhood city halls, and civil air patrols. We would like to have them under one umbrella of citizens work to introduce them into the emergency preparedness work to give them information on how to be prepared and take that information back into the community and disburse this information among the community members. We are trying to relieve some of the anxiety but also ensure that communities are able to sustain themselves for at least three (3) days should there be a significant event in the city. It is important that we pass on the information and encourage individuals as well as families have a disaster plan and also have a family disaster kit that includes some of the things that are necessary to survive. He was not referring to duct tape or plastic sheeting, this information was blown out of proportion. He was referring to items

that families should have such as blankets, water, portable flashlights, portable radios, extra batteries, and medical supplies. Things that families should have not only for a terrorist attack but for any given incident that might occur.

In the communication perspective, the city has done an outstanding job in reaching out to the other counterparts in the local communities, state and federal levels. We have a great interface between all of those levels and with our different offices in the city. We have identified that we have some issues with emergency communications who are day-to-day communications. The Police, Fire, and EMS departments were unable to talk to each other, so we are implementing a new 800-megahertz communications system. He held a meeting to discuss how to start to move rapidly in bringing this project onboard. In the interim, we have purchased portable units that are communications operability units that allow Police, Fire, and EMS and other jurisdictions to talk to each other at the scene of a major incident. This measure puts us farther ahead than where we were before.

In the planning and exercising area, the City of Detroit Emergency Operations Plan has been updated. It now includes an annex that addresses weapons of mass destruction. The Emergency Operations plan although it addresses weapons of mass destruction aspects; it is still an all hazards plan. The plan was developed to incorporate anything that could possibly occur in the wake of an emergency, disaster, or terrorist attack in the City of Detroit and put into measure ways to respond and recover as well as mitigation efforts, and take on some of the things that we could do to prevent some of the threats that could occur in the City of Detroit. We have the Local Emergency Planning Committee, which is a group of individuals from both the public and private representatives that are responsible for implementing and formulating plans for industries that house or maintain hazardous waste material. They formulate the plans and make sure that these plans are within the guidelines or criteria of the federal government. Last Sunday, there was an incident involving the Detroit Windsor Tunnel and representatives from Police, Fire, and EMS. This was a level of preparedness for the city so that if something occurred in the tunnel, we are not waiting for the actual incident to happen before we start to work together. These are few of the things that are taking place with homeland security. It is an ongoing effort. As conditions change, our responses, and mitigation efforts have to change. We are taking a proactive look at everything that we do and trying to take measure so that we are not waiting until there is a major occurrence before we respond. We do not want just a reactive type of organization project, it has to be a system that allows us to identify, recognize what the threats are; to assess how vulnerable we are to those threats and then do something about it.

Comm. Ramirez stated that medical supplies meant things such as band-aids, etc. She stated that at the town hall meeting it was requested that medications be included on the list for citizens to remember to grab their medicines along with the other items in the event of an emergency. She hoped that there is a plan in place for the shelters in the areas to include the homeless individuals.

Mr. Shelby Slater stated that they are working with the Human Services Department, who is responsible for special need individuals, not only the homeless, but the other special needs as well to identify shelters. We have contracted the American Red Cross for our sheltering needs. Right now, our shelters are located in the recreation centers of the city and we are trying to put together an agreement with the public schools so that shelters can be located there as well, we have thought about that as well.

Comm. Ramirez asked if homeland security has been discussed with the local health departments and if so what will their function be?

Mr. Shelby Slater responded no question about that. He met with members of the health department a couple of days ago. The health department and the hospitals are working very closely together. The Region II Medical Bio-Defense Network is a group of hospitals in southeastern Michigan that are putting together planning in case there is a terrorist attack. These hospitals will come together and meet the needs in the area where this attack occurs, and that has to be coordinated with public health. In addition, there is coordination for the smallpox vaccine and now for the West Nile virus. We are working very closely with them as well.

Comm. Blackwell stated that Detroit has one of the largest Arab/Chaldean communities outside of the Middle East. These citizens have felt specifically targeted since September 11 attack. There is a certain of paranoia within this community. In light of the fact that we are engaged in a conflict with Iraq, there is a heightened state of security as there should be. What is planned in the event of an attack? What is being done to reach out to these communities such as translators?

Mr. Shelby Slater stated that he has an individual on his staff that is of Middle Eastern descent. We often go out into the communities and exchange information. We try and determine if there is some concerns within the community about what we are doing. He stated that DC Haddad has reached out to the community as well. What we have advocated and encouraged is based upon what the Mayor has said many times. We are going to treat Detroiters as Detroiters regardless of their ethnic religion, origin, or religious background. We try to advocate that when we are going out to the various community meetings. In order to alleviate the fears of that community, there has to be a constant interchange of information. If they have a concern, they have to be confident that they can come to someone either in his office or a police officer, etc., and have those concerns addressed in a genuine manner. That is the technique that we are using.

Comm. Blackwell states that what Mr. Slater is doing is a great thing but additional outreach services are needed since we have a large population of nationalities. The federal government has allocated 75 billion dollars and some of this was made available for homeland security. We need to request extra money to assist us in the city of Detroit.

Mr. Shelby Slater stated that we are trying to get as much funding into the city as possible. Programs that are identified now are valid programs, however, we have to think outside of the box as Comm. Blackwell as indicated. We need to look at some of the things that we can do within the community to address those concerns from a very legitimate type of perspective to go and address the needs, talk about the issues, and do it as many times as necessary. A lot of times we go into the communities and address those issues but he felt that the communities should be invited downtown to our offices and get the comfort level that they can come into our offices and feel a friendly atmosphere, and be able to talk in a very comfortable environment.

Charles Mitchell, Director, Public Safety for Detroit Public Schools stated that Mr. Slater has been very supportive of their goal. The biggest concern is that we have a large population of students and Mr. Slater has been helping them work out a plan. The administrators are very concerned as Comm. Blackwell stated. How will the population react to our students? How will our kids react to the students? We were able to bring in teams of counselors and we worked with agents out of Dearborn and his office and we alleviated that. We put together a plan and every one of the schools submitted a security safety plan. He stated that this the best opportunity that has ever come to him. They have developed a security safety plan for all types of emergencies such as weather, fire, ice storms, and everything else that follows the plan. He was glad to meet the Board of Police Commissioners.

Comm. Norris stated that she was sorry that Ms. Walters was not available to speak to Mr. Mitchell because she comes to every meeting to remind us to educate our children on what to do in case of an emergency.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Commander Moreland stated the flyers regarding the 5th Precinct Citizens/Police Community Meeting are scheduled for Monday, April 14, 2003, and not April 10, 2003 as the flyer indicates. Each team has a captain and a co-captain. His co-captain is Insp. Hilton Napoleon who was present at this meeting tonight.

Dir. Elsie Scott stated that everyone should have received a pink flyer when they came in. This is the hiring for the Spirit of Service project. We are going to conduct some citizens' focus groups. We are trying to identify citizens who would like to participate. The flyer has the basic information and on the back there is the application form. If you wish to complete the application tonight, you may leave it with us or they can mail it back in.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

PO Reggie Crawford expressed his concerns regarding the changing the culture in our community. He stated that there is a lot of hypocrisy in the leadership of our department. Chief Oliver and many members of his staff are from outside of the City. He stated that he could not buy into leadership that discriminates against police officers and sergeants and not promoting them. He stated we needed a “watchdog” from the DOJ and maybe we can receive some justice.

Sandra Cole is a resident of the 5th Precinct. She expressed her concerns regarding the neighbor’s children destroying the neighborhood. She has called the 5th Precinct and has not received a response.

Tony expressed his political views on what was happening in the City of Detroit.

Mary Unger stated she had come before the Board a year ago and had expressed her concerns about moving a business to the City of Detroit. She wished to thank Cmdr. Moreland and the 5th Precinct for being there when she needed to talk.

Mr. Craccioholio expressed his concerns regarding the senior citizens center. Elderly persons are dropped off and no one picks them in a timely manner.

Unidentified male was speaking on abandoned vehicles that are towed surrounding schools and major intersections that blocking traffic receives priority treatment. The other vehicles are tagged and towed by the assigned towers. Feedback with respect to abandoned vehicles, they are tracked and we ask that if the vehicle is not moved within two to three weeks, give us a call and we contact the towers to find out what is the delay.

Unidentified female asked if the community has gone through the process and identified vehicles and properties as priorities, how would it be worked with the citizens to have them removed?

Unidentified male answered regarding the abandoned vehicles, they would be towed right away. On the properties, he may be of assistance by helping to cut through the red tape by going directly to the person or persons in charge of Buildings, Safety and Engineering.

AC Shoulders stated that he is working with a city committee that is putting together a program formed by the Mayor Service Improvement System which will address all of those indicated where there are abandoned buildings or dangerous lots. A lot of those things are not the police department but people tend to call us. A system that we hope to have in place very soon that when the citizens call in, we will have this computer tracking system and it will be sent to the appropriate departments. The department would have to respond back to them and then send a reply back to the person that originally made the request.

Richard Jones from Councilwoman Sheila Cockrel's office stated that until the program is implanted, the council has a meeting every Monday concerning abandoned vehicles if you are having problems.

Ms. Walters expressed concern regarding scout cars making u turns out on the streets and then turning on the sirens. She also asked if we could invite City Council members to the meetings so that the laws can be enforced that are already in effect. She is concerned about the number of children on the streets after 10:30 p.m.

Comm. Blackwell expressed his concern regarding the issuance of an ordinance regarding young children being out at all times of the night.

Comm. Norris asked AC Shoulders to relay this information to Chief Oliver about working on some type of report regarding summer issues such as children in the streets at night. Measures that the department is taking and tools that the department has to enforce things.

Insp. Napoleon stated that for persons that ride the bus regularly, there is a marker so that the bus drivers may see the height of the person who is getting on the bus.

Comm. Blackwell asked who is responsible for the liability or public risk of these children? A public policy needs to be addressed concerning this issue.

Rev. Wilson has been a city bus driver for 29 years. He stated that an adult must accompany a child under the age of 10. The adult must be 18 years or older. The markers still exist for height.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 17, 2003, @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters – Rm. 328-A
1300 Beaubien
Detroit, MI 48226

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS

Executive Director

Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/fyh